



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
UTAH FIELD OFFICE



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Cattle and Calf Inventory

UTAH: Cattle and calf inventory as of January 1, 2006 totaled 820,000 head, according to the Utah Field Office of USDA's National Agriculture Statistics Service. This was down 5 percent from January 1, 2005. Beef cows, at 335,000 head, were 12,000 head less than 2005. Milk cows, at 85,000 head, were 3,000 head less than 2005. Beef cow replacement heifers, at 60,000 head, were down 5,000 head from 2005. Milk cow replacement heifers, at 45,000 head, remained the same as last year. Other heifers not intended for replacement totaled 65,000 head, 5,000 less than 2005. The January 1, 2006 inventory level of steers weighing 500 pounds or more was 105,000 head, 5,000 less than last year. Bulls weighing over 500 pounds totaled 20,000 head, down 2,000 from 2005. Calves weighing less than 500 pounds as of January 1, 2006 totaled 105,000 head, 8,000 head lower than the previous year. The 2005 calf crop of 380,000 head was down 10,000 head from 2004.

UNITED STATES: All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2006, totaled 97.1 million head, 2 percent above the 95.4 million on January 1, 2005. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 42.3 million, were up 1 percent from the 41.9 million on January 1, 2005. Beef cows, at 33.3 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2005. Milk cows, at 9.06 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2005. Other class estimates on January 1, 2006, and the change from January 1, 2005, are as follows: All heifers 500 pounds and over, 20.0 million, up 2 percent. Beef replacement heifers, 5.90 million, up 4 percent. Milk replacement heifers, 4.28 million, up 4 percent. Other heifers, 9.80 million, up slightly. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.9 million, up 3 percent. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.26 million, up 2 percent. Calves under 500 pounds, 15.6 million, up 2 percent. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 14.1 million, up 3 percent. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 28.2 million, up 2 percent. The 2005 calf crop was estimated at 37.8 million head, up 1 percent from 2004. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.4 million, up slightly from 2004.